

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant first wishes to thank Examiner Stokes for her indication of allowable subject matter. Reconsideration of the above-identified patent application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks. Claim 2 was previously cancelled, without prejudice. Claims 1, and 3 - 28 are now cancelled, without prejudice. Claim 29 was previously allowed and remains in the application.

The present invention features a one-piece osteotome useful for performing several of the multiple steps required to prepare an osteotomy (i.e., a "hole") for receiving a dental implant. The novel, one-piece tool contains multiple working sections, each of these sections being specifically designed to perform a distinct operation. The sections typically include a drill portion, a locator tip, a crestal reducer portion, and a lateral redirector portion within the single tool. This allows a practitioner to selectively perform multiple operations without replacing the tool in the

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hand piece. This ensures maximum efficiency and ensures that the various functional portions of the tool are compatible with one another.

Claims 1, 2, and 4 - 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,364,662 for DIAMOND-LIKE CARBON COATED DENTAL INSTRUMENT, issued April 2, 2002 to Ajay Kumar. The cancellation of claims 1 and 3 - 28 renders their rejection moot.

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Claim 29 was previously allowed. Applicant respectfully requests that claim 29 be allowed and the application passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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(Date of Deposit)

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